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NBC

ADVERTISER FARM AND HOME HOUR

WRITER

PROGRAM TITLE "UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS" (#160)

OK

CHICAGO OUTLET WLS

(12:30-1:30 P.M.)

(JULY 26 1935)

(FRIDAY DAY)

PRODUCTION

ANNOUNCER

ENGINEER

REMARKS

ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers

ORCHESTRA: QUARTET: Ranger Song

ANNOUNCER: In order to facilitate the work of administration and protection of the great National Forests, the U. S. Forest Service has constructed a net work of telephone lines connecting the various ranger headquarters and lookout stations. It is the district ranger's duty to see that these lines of communication are kept in serviceable condition. On the Pine Cone district Jim Robbins has been troubled for several weeks by a loud hum on his line from the ranger station to Windy Peak lookout station. At times this static has been so bad that the telephone line has been out of commission. As we tune in today Rangers Jim Robbins and Jerry Quick are having trouble calling the lookout station -

JERRY: (SHOUTING) Hello! hello! Can you hear me? - Hello, Bill!

(LOWER) Shucks it's no use, Jim. Listen to that static.

(HUMMING NOISE) I can't make out a thing Bill says.

JIM: I declare it's got me stumped - it sounds like the hum of an electric dynamo. Do you s'pose it's from the Broadacres power line?

JERRY: How could it be? Our line don't go near the power line.

JIM: Well, we've got to have communication with our lookouts. - We'll just drop everything else and work on this trouble till we find it

(DOOR OPENS)

BESS: (COMING UP) You boys ready for breakfast? Why, what's the matter - you both look so cross.

JIM: You'd better get on the air with the radiophone, Jerry. - He'll try to reach us by radio when he couldn't by telephone -

BESS: Can't you wait till after breakfast? It's all ready.

JIM: We probably wouldn't find Bill on the air after breakfast.

JERRY: Yeah, I'll have to try him right away.

JIM: If you raise him, Jerry, tell him we have his line cut off down here.

JERRY: All right.

JIM: And fix up a schedule for him with Pinkie on the Bald Mountain Station, say every 15 minutes all day.

JERRY: Yeah - I see - if Bill spots a fire he can get word to Pink within 15 minutes anyway.

JIM: Yes and Pink can relay the report to the fire crew by his telephone.

JERRY: All right, Jim - (GOING OFF) I'll stay with it 'till I raise him.

BESS: Can't you come, Jim?

JIM: Yes, we might as well go ahead. Jerry will be along in a few minutes.

BESS: You know it's queer about the Bald Mountain line. You remember when you had the fire on Spring Creek last week, when those men were shocked by the live wire?

JIM: Yeah?

BESS: Well, Bill phoned down from the lookout station several times that day and the line was just as clear as could be. He remarked about it -- that there wasn't any static --

JIM: Um-m-m-m- I wonder - That was the day after the big thunder storm - usually after a rain the noise is worse than at any other time.

BESS: It was so quiet that I left the Bald Mountain switch in and you remember it was that night the noise was so bad you had to cut it out again, and the operator called up from the switchboard at Willow Glen and complained that the noise came in down there?

JIM: That's right. Now I wonder what it was that stopped the noise that day.

BESS: Sit down, Jim and I'll pour your coffee --

JIM: (MUSING) Yes - the power was shut off that day. There must be some connection -

BESS: Oh, Jim, do sit down and eat - everything is getting cold. Besides I want to talk to you about the party --

JIM: Eh? What party?

BESS: Why, the announcement party. We're going to announce Mary's engagement to Jerry.

JIM: Oh - why I thought they wanted to keep that a secret for a while.

BESS: Oh, that's foolish Jim - you know they can't keep it secret. It's sure to leak out and then there won't be any need for a party.

JIM: (CHUCKLES) Nothing to hinder the party anyway that I can see.

BESS: Jim, you are just impossible. What's the use of announcing something that everybody already knows.

JIM: But just why are you so set on giving this party when Mary's trying to keep the engagement quiet?

BESS: (SPIRITELY) Because if I don't announce it Mrs. Gay will - and I think Mary is a great deal closer to me than she is to Mrs. Gay ---

JIM: (CHUCKLES) Oh - I see - a little social rivalry - (DOOR OPENS)

JERRY: (COMING IN BRISKLY) Well, I finally raised 'im Jim - Pink came on the air too so it is all arranged. They'll keep a quarter hour schedule all day so Bill can report any fires.

JIM: That's good - better get your breakfast now so we can get started.

JERRY: How you going to shoot the trouble, Jim?

JIM: We'll cut that line in sections and test each section 'till we find where that noise comes from. Bess gave me a hunch a few minutes ago.

(FADE OUT)

(INTERVAL, MUSIC)

(FADE IN) (SADDLE HORSES WALKING)

JERRY: Where'll we make the first test, Jim?

JIM: Up here where the Broadacres telephone comes in on our line.

JERRY: You don't think their telephone would cause the noise? I've tested their line and it hasn't any static.

JIM: Well, I don't know - Bess tells me that when the power was shut off last week when we had the fire, there wasn't a bit of noise on our line. You know we never had this trouble before the power line was built.

JERRY: Yeah, but it don't come within two miles of us.

JIM: Right. And the only possible connection is their telephone. It comes across from the power line and it's the only possible connection - Whoa Dolly - (HORSES STOP)

JERRY: Going to test it out here?

JIM: Yes the Broadacres line comes in just above. So if you'll put on your climbers we'll cut our line here and ground it. Then we can test back to the station.

JERRY: All right! Here, hold Spark, will you?

JIM: Just loop your reins over Dolly's saddlehorn. That'll anchor him. While you're putting your climbers on I'll get the test set ready -

JERRY: Well, here goes - gimme a piece of wire off that coil for a ground wire - (PLIERS SNAP) There!

JIM: Here, you'll need the come-alongs to hold the line wire after you cut it.

JERRY: (OFF) Oh! Yeah - Hand 'em up to me -

JIM: Here - Got 'em?

JERRY: Yep. (RESUMES CLIMBING)

JIM: Hitch the test set wire before you cut the line. I want to try it out first.

JERRY: (OFF) All right go ahead - How is it?

JIM: Noisy as ever - go ahead cut 'er.

JERRY: (OFF) She's cut!

JIM: Ah! Clear as a bell. I'll call the station. (WINDS TEST SET CRANK - PAUSE)

JERRY: Make it snappy Jim - this pole is kinda -

JIM: Hello Bess. This is Jim - no we're up here on the line. I just wanted to test back to see if it's clear. Yes, the trouble is between here and the Lookout - goodbye - eh? - Well tell us about it tonight. I've got Jerry hanging up on a pole here - goodbye - (TO JERRY) All right, Jerry, splice the line and come on down.

JERRY: (OFF) Yeah, (GRUNTS) If I can pull up enough slack (GRUNTS) There! Say, Jim, what did Mrs. Robbins want to tell you when you cut her off?

JIM: Oh, something about some word from Mary - I didn't want to keep you up that pole - you might fall off -

JERRY: (OFF) Aw shucks - I could hang up here all day (Dig dig of Jerry's coming down pole) (UP) Wonder what Mary said?

JIM: (CHUCKLES) Probably sent her love to yuh!

JERRY: (SURLY) Yeah? What are we going to do now?

JIM: We'll ride up the line to where the Broadacres line leaves our poles again and test with the Lookout. If that end of the line is clear we'll know the trouble comes from the other line.

JERRY: All right, let's go -

(FADE OUT)

(INTERVAL, MUSIC)

(FADE IN)

Jim: (TALKING OVER TEST SET) Well Bill, we've found the trouble. This end of the line is clear and the other end is clear up to the place where Broadacres joins us. I'm going to cut their line and put you back in commission.

JERRY: (OFF) For the love of Mike, Jim, hurry up - my spurs are liable to slip out of this pole -

JIM: All right, Jerry (TO PHONE) Hello, Bill? - As soon as we get the other line cut, I'll call you back to see if you're in the clear - that's all - (CALLS) Go ahead, Jerry, splice 'er up.

(FADEOUT - PAUSE - FADEIN)

JIM: (PHONING) Hello - hello, Starr? - This is Jim Robbins. You remember I told you our Windy Peak line has been in trouble ever since you built on our poles? Well, we've found the trouble and I'll have to cut your line off - Yes, I know there's no connection between them but there's induction and we're getting all your power house noise so I called to tell you the line will be cut right away. Yes, - Well, I'm sorry, Starr, but we've got to maintain communication with the fire lookout - I guess you'll have to build a separate line. Goodbye (CALLS) Go ahead Jerry, cut 'em.

(TWANG AS GERRY CUT 2 LINE WIRES)

JERRY: (OFF) There she goes - now try our line -

JIM: She's all okay Jerry - I'll call up Bill.

(FADEOUT)

(INTERVAL, MUSIC)

(FADEIN)

JIM: Well, we're home again -

JERRY: Yep that was a good day's work.

JIM: Well, I'm glad to get that telephone trouble cleared up - It's been worrying me for some time - say - did you turn the horses out?

JERRY: No, but I left the barn door and the pasture gate open. They can go out themselves when they finish their oats.

JIM: All right.

JERRY: But Jim - I haven't yet figured out how we could pick up the noise of that power house from their line.

JIM: The way I figure it is this - our line is a ground line - one wire and the other conductor is the ground. Well they come along with their line, and put it on our poles for several miles and then they carry it over and hang it on their power pole. They have two wires - the reason they have the metallic circuit is to get away from the noise of the static they pick up from the power line.

JERRY: Yes, but they didn't have any noise -

JIM: No, they got away from it by transposing the position of their wires three or four times every mile but they did carry the static just the same and they carried it over and put it right between our circuit - our wire above and the ground beneath.

JERRY: I see. We couldn't transpose our wire with the earth, so we got the full benefit of the static going to ground.

BESS: (COMING IN) Sya, how long are you men going to stand out here gabbing about static? I've been standing in here waiting for you to come in so I could spring my surprise.

JIM: What surprise. I haven't --

MARY: Hello, Jerry.

JERRY: Oh, Mary! Gee Mary, I'm glad you came over.

BESS: There, I told you I had a surprise.

JIM: (CHUCKLES) I' M glad you didn't tell us over the phone this afternoon. Jerry'd have fallen off that pole, sure.

MARY: Oh Jerry it's so good to see you.

JERRY: How did you get away from the ranch, Mary? Did Mrs. Gay let you off?

MARY: Yes, I had to tell her Jerry -

JERRY: Tell 'er what?

MARY: Tell her about our engagement and she was just thrilled about it - and she said "why yes surely you must go over and see him."

BESS: You see, I phoned the ranch this morning and asked Mary if she would come over to plan the announcement party - and here she is -

JERRY: Gee Mary - let's take a little walk - shall we?

MARY: Why yes, of course.

(FADEOUT - MUSIC)

ANNOUNCER: Next Friday Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers will be with us again. This program is presented by the National Broadcasting Company, with the cooperation of the United States Forest Service.

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